

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 22, and carrying over onto page 22 with the following paragraph:

As another alternative, the LSM 24 could be configured to send a single frequency-multiplexed signal that combines the output of many LSM channel outputs from filters 58 into one individual 11 way combiner 60 that combines the DOCSIS channel and the 10 LSM channel outputs, intended for different RIUs that is sent to each of its RIUs in loop-through or tree-and-branch fashion. Such an architecture is discussed in more detail in U.S. Patent Application No. [[_____,]] 10/666,646, filed on September 17, 2003, entitled "Video Distribution System with Increased Centralized Processing," ~~and designated as docket number 50055-00029 in the office of Marsh, Fischmann & Breyfogle LLP,~~ the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 6, and carrying over onto page 36 with the following paragraph:

The incoming signal from the LSM via the tap 112 includes the DOCSIS forward channel, the video channel eventually intended for the television 114, and possibly other channels intended for other RIUs and televisions that are not shown in the drawing. A bandpass filter (BPF) 118 passes only the forward video channels and does not allow any of the control and communication signals associated with the RIU 110 or the DOCSIS forward or return signals through. The output of the BPF 118 is sent to a frequency converter 120, which is typically a synthesized frequency converter, set up in this case to convert one of the incoming television

channels, the one that was intended for the television 114, to a fixed channel frequency to be sent to television 114. In this case the frequency converter 120 includes a mixer and a local oscillator (LO). The frequency converter ~~102~~ 120 is in this embodiment a “High Side LO” frequency converter. Thus, if the desired input frequency is F1, and the desired output frequency to the television is F2, the LO frequency is given by $F3 = F1 + F2$. For example, a signal centered at 300 MHz and containing signals varying from 297 to 303 MHz is mixed with an LO at 370 MHz to give an output signal centered at 70 MHz containing signals varying from 67 to 73 MHz. Note that due to the subtraction that takes place at the mixer the portion of the signals that was originally at 297 MHz is now at 73 MHz and the portion of the signals that was at 303 MHz is now at 67 MHz. Thus, such a design frequency inverts the incoming signal (to restore the original orientation of the audio and video signals) so as to be viewable by the television 114. The output of the frequency converter 120 then passes through a fixed frequency single channel bandpass filter 103, typically a surface acoustic wave filter (SAW filter) that allows only the video channel intended for television 114 to pass. Such a design also assures that a television viewer intent on stealing the signal, if he or she removes the RIU 110 and connects the television 114 directly to the tap ~~112~~ 112, will not be able to see any programming at all on their television, due to the frequency-inverted condition of the video channels that will not be restored to a proper orientation by the RIU 110 in this scenario.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 18 with the following paragraph:

The DOCSIS downstream channel passing through the tap 112 is filtered by a DOCSIS downstream bandpass filter 124 in the RIU 110 and sent to a DOCSIS cable modem which may or may not be ~~at~~ part of the RIU 110. The DOCSIS upstream signal as well as set top box return signal, if any, are filtered by a DOCSIS upstream bandpass filter 126 in the RIU 110 and sent back to the LSM via the tap 110.